# Nippon Times

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# GERMANS AGAIN FOIL RED ARMY'S THRUST INTO MORAVIAN AREA

### Konev's Aim to Secure Zhukov's Southern Flank Smashed For Second Time

**Domei**

BERLIN, March 12.—Marshal Konev's major attack north of High Tatra mountains after two days' fighting in the Schwarzwasser-Ratibor area was checked by numerically far inferior German troops. The thrust into the Moravian plain thus failed again. The operative significance of this partial offensive is obvious. The aim here was above all to establish an absolute security for the southern flank of Zhukov's major attack in the area west of the Oder. To accomplish this the attack was planned on a much wider front and was probably intended to lead deep into the Sazen-Bohemian area on either side of the Silesian foothills. The Germans had, already over the week nd, observed the Soviet deployments and regroupings along the upper reaches of the Oder. An immediately launched strong surprise attack carried the Germans to the eastern edge of upper Silesian industrial area right into the Soviet deployments east of Ratibor. The lining up of the Soviet army was thus seriously disturbed so that the Russian commanders were compelled to employ only five unmauled infantry divisions and tank corps along the 16-kilometers front against the Troppau-Mahelsich-Ostrav sector which failed to achieve the objective despite their great numerical superiority.

The entire remaining Eastern Front continues to present the same picture as in recent days except for the increasing indications of offensive preparations at the Oder bend betw en Crossen and Questrin. Heavy artillery fire on both sides and renewed attempts to expand the Oder bridgeheads at Lebus and Goerlitz with stronger forces to provide the starting bases for a major offensive characterize the situation here. Marshal Zhukov, however, is not likely to launch a thrust against Berlin until Kuestrin is in the Russian hands.

The situation of this fortress has, however, improved in favor of the defenders. Several blocks of houses in the old and new sections of the city were recaptured by the German troops. The Soviet High Command will still have to sacrifice strong forces before getting hold of the fortress for an attack westward. The same applies to Stettin. Here the focal point of attack has shifted to the area on either side of the Stargard-Altdamm highway, but also here the Soviets failed to score a breakthrough to Altdamm just as they failed to capture the town from the south toward the end of last week.

Generally speaking the picture has not changed to any extent along the long northern flank, although violent battles are still in progress in the form of attack and counterattack in the Kolberg-Schlawe area, as well as above all between Stolp and Lauenburg.

Gotenhafen and Danzig which have been united into a single bridgehead are stubbornly resisting the attacks from the northwest as well as from the south launched on either side of the Vistula.

### Soviets Take Kuestrin

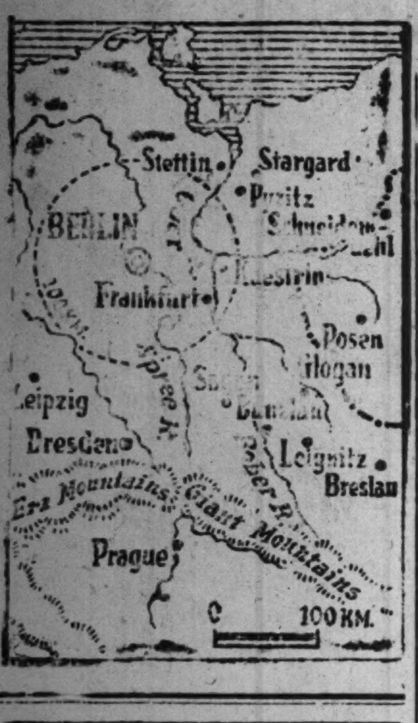
**Domei**

STOCKHOLM, March 12.—Kuestrin, big German stronghold on the Oder 45 miles from Berlin, has been captured by the Red Army, announced Marshal Stalin's order of the day, according to a Moscow report. The order of the day is to Marshal Zhukov and says: "Forces of the 1st White Russian command as the result of stubborn fighting today captured the town and fortress of Kuestrin."

### India Invited to S.F. Meet

**Special to the Nippon Times**

LISBON, March 12.—The Indian Government has been invited to the United Nations World Security Conference in San Francisco on April 25, according to a New Delhi report. Meanwhile, a Washington dispatch said that American delegates to the San Francisco meeting will meet in Washington this week for a preliminary conference following the report that Commander Harold Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota, who is one of the representatives will fly to Washington today. It is assumed that the delegates will meet State Department officials headed by Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State.



### Fuehrer's Headquarters

March 12

Between the Drau and Lake Balaton, numerous enemy attempts to push back our advanced positions with strong forces were frustrated. On both sides of the Sarviz Canal, our offensive formations advanced further despite strong Soviet resistance and occupied a strongly fortified difficult fighting sector.

In the Slovak Ore Mountains where the Soviets since the past few weeks attacked with far superior forces, several heights at Altsohl were lost. Continuous strong attacks of enemy infantry and panzer formations on both sides of Schwarzwasser and north of Ratibor were frustrated by our divisions. The Soviet fighting group which was encircled in the northern part of Striegau was further compressed despite strong resistance and several relief attacks from the north repelled with losses to the enemy.

The Breslau garrison continues to hold its positions in embittered house to house fighting against the Soviets attacking in vain since several weeks especially in the southern part of the town. In the course of this fighting since February 10 and 28 a total of 41 enemy tanks, 239 guns and anti-tank guns were destroyed and the enemy, moreover, suffered about 6,700 dead.

Between Frankfurt-on-the-Oder and Kuestrin, our troops also yesterday frustrated strong Soviet attacks, supported by strong aircraft while in the battle for the Stettin bridgehead our formation also yesterday repelled the attacks of three Soviet armies and our armored formations made strong counterattacks and destroyed 28 Soviet tanks. On the Baltic coast a strong German fighting group fought its way back to the Dievenov bridgehead against stubborn Soviet resistance while outside of Kolberg numerous enemy attacks again collapsed with losses to the enemy.

The heavy defensive battle in West Prussia for the approaches to Danzig continues with the Soviets using an increased array of forces. At Neustadt our troops prevented a breakthrough to Gotenhafen by strong enemy tank forces while along the Zuckau-Dirschau-Tiegenhof line the Soviet breakthrough attacks were halted and 63 enemy tanks were knocked out. Naval forces and naval flak with telling effect joined in the heavy battles in the Pomeranian and West Prussian coasts as well as in the Danzig area and destroyed 11 Soviet tanks.

On the southern front of our positions in East Prussia, the enemy reconnoitering activity flared up again and the big battle in Courland continued with undiminished ferocity in the area southeast of Frauenburg, where 31 enemy tanks were destroyed. At the Eastern Front, our fighter and battleplane formations yesterday shot down 65 Soviet planes.

The Rhine front in the west between Emmerich and Bonn is marked by mutual regroupings and enemy movements and troop deployments were shelled by artillery fire while east of Remagen fluctuating fighting continues. Despite the bringing up of reinforcements, the enemy did not succeed in enlarging his bridgehead toward the west. At Koblenz, in the Eifel and east of the Kyll, American pressure in the direction of the Moselle continued, while northwest of Bernkastel several localities were regained in strong counterattacks. On the lower Rhine enemy reconnaissance thrusts were frustrated.

From Croatia lively enemy fighting activity is reported in the greater area of Sarajewo.

British terror bombers yesterday during daylight attacked Essen while American formations bombed towns in northwestern Germany causing damage in the residential districts of greater Hamburg. In the evening hours British bombers raided central Germany as well as the Reich capital.

## DEMANDS SPEEDY VICTORY

**Domei**

LISBON, March 8.—Irritable opinions calling for an early termination of the European War have increased in the Anglo-American countries. In this connection, today's issue of The New York Times made the following comment:

The war situation is such that the anti-Axis forces must gain victory as quickly as possible for time is not with us. There is no justification in being optimistic over the strategic successes of the anti-Axis forces while ignoring the possibility of mistakes on our part in the future. Germany is now facing a crisis, but she still has sufficient fighting strength. We must not forget that Germany is a formidable foe.

As was revealed by the Crimea Communique, the anti-Axis nations are inseparably united. However, Germany hopes that some serious differences will rise among the anti-Axis countries.

## ENEMY'S RETREAT ROUTE CUT OFF IN TAUNTA AREA

### Fighting in Burma Grows in Intensity on Middle Irrawaddy Front

**By a Member of the Military Press Corps**

BURMA FRONT, March 11.—Typhonic drives by the Japanese Forces have resulted in the severance of the enemy's route of retreat in the Taunta sector as in the meantime the situation in the middle Irrawaddy front grew in intensity.

On the right wing, the main force of the enemy 19th division, situated on the left bank of the Irrawaddy throughout the plain southeast of Singu, have been striving to filter into the Japanese positions in coefforts with a fresh unit which managed to drive to the right bank of the river. With the fighting since the first of the month growing in furiousness, the Japanese Forces, although outnumbered, are breaking down the enemy's operational scheme.

In the central sector, more than 5,000 casualties have been inflicted on the British 2nd division, which moved to the line binding Sagain and Minmu. The focal point of fighting in this sector is the vicinity of Nazun.

On the left wing, the enemy's attacks from the juncture of the Chindwin and Irrawaddy southward to Mingun declired with the arrival of the new month and no significant change is evident in this sector. Counterdrives against the enemy forces which crossed the river from the Nyaungu area continue. The Nyaungu-Binbin Taunta-Meiktila road was severed by the Japanese Forces near Taunta on the first of the month and is being held firmly at that point since then. Continuous concentrations have been carried out by the enemy, obviously with the aim of forcing open the road from Taunta to Meiktila. The Japanese have been repeating sharp counterattacks against the enemy and are pressing him westward.

On March 8, powerful Japanese Units launched a cyclonic counterassault from three directions, from the north and northwest of Meiktila, Taunta, and south of the city. Positioned for an encirclement of the enemy ring, the Japanese Forces are inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy by close-quarter assaults. The enemy's rear is threatened seriously.

The enemy, however, apparently intends to force a drive forward under air cover. On the evening of March 8, an enemy force with tanks, and armored cars drove to the Windwin area, 30 kilometers northeast of Meiktila, but were repulsed by the Japanese Forces. In the sector north of Meiktila, too, heavy fighting rages between the Japanese and the enemy forces who drove into this region.

In an anxious effort to check the Japanese pressure from the south of Meiktila, a powerful enemy force with 26 tanks and 80 trucks and armored cars attacked the Japanese Forces in the sector 10 kilometers north of Piyaube and 30 kilometers north of Yamethin on March 8. It was repulsed by the Japanese who inflicted losses of 10 tanks stalled and and set ablaze, destroyed seven trucks and many others upon it. Furious fighting rages between the Japanese and the enemy force which assaulted this region again the next day about 11 a.m. with 15 tanks at its head.

### Meiktila Enemy Frantic

**By T. TOKUNAGA**

**Of the Military Press Corps**

NORTH BURMA FRONT, March 11.—The frantic state in which the enemy in the Irrawaddy scene of fighting has been plunged due to the death defying shock attacks of the Japanese Units there causing heavy loss in men and materials may be seen in the Meiktila area where the enemy have recently advanced with heavily equipped tank units, armored almost to the point of exaggeration.

Dreading discovery by the Japanese, they have camouflaged their tanks with nippa leaves and fitted up various apparatuses such as mirror system detectors and sound detectors to measure the approach of the Japanese. In their day attacks the enemy protect one tank with one plane. It is noteworthy that they generally elect dusk or dawn for their tank attacks and once the attacks are over they withdraw to concentrate at one point to set up a temporary position there. Then unleashing fierce dogs or by means of sound detectors they comb the surrounding district for any Japanese infiltration. However, piercing the enemy whose sole strength lies in their tanks, unrelenting shock attacks are being carried on day and night by the Japanese.

## *King Bao-Dai Proclaims the Independence Of Annam; Abrogates Treaty With France*

**By M. MARUYAMA, T. TOMINAGA and Y. YABE**

**Of the Military Press Corps**

HUE, March 11.—Freeing himself and his 23,000,000 countrymen from the French shackles by which the Annamites have been bound for the last 60 years, King Bao-Dai of Annam proclaimed the independence of his country at noon today and at the same time announced the abrogation of the Franco-Annamese Treaty.

The declaration follows:

"The Kingdom of Annam issues a declaration announcing the restoration of independence to the country, abrogating the Franco-Annamese Treaty by which Annam has been bound to France as the latter's protectorate. Hereafter, the Kingdom of Annam will endeavor to bring about the development of the country as a free state and at the same time, exert its utmost to live up to the principles expounded in the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations. In order to achieve these aims, the Annamese Kingdom will extend all-out cooperation to the Japanese Empire with sincere faith in the true intentions of Japan."

The day has come for the 23,000,000 Annamites to become free. They have risen time and again against France for the liberation of their country, expressing their objection to the colonial French policy While suffering under the French yoke the Annamites looked forward to a day when they would be free. With the issuance of the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations, they began to understand the sincere intentions of the Japanese Empire which is fighting for the liberation and enlightenment of the Asiatic peoples.

Meanwhile, King Bao-Dai called a Cabinet meeting and consulted on various pending matters relating to the independence of his country. Finally a decision was reached as to the abrogation of the Franco-Annamese Treaty, and independence was declared in the presence of all the Cabinet members.

### Disarm French Troops

**By M. MARUYAMA, T. TOMINAGA and Y. YABE**

**Of the Military Press Corps**

HUE, March 11.—Due to France's breach of faith the Japanese Army which was obliged to take into its own hands the defense of Indo-China disarmed the local French army and seized military establishments on the night of March 9.

The Japanese Units in concerted action broke through the fort walls of the capital of Annam at 10:30 p.m. and although the French troops resisted, Special Japanese Units carried out resolute action amidst a rain of bullets in collaboration with the Air Units and the enemy was finally forced to surrender. With the complete disarming of the enemy yesterday afternoon and with pro-French elements firmly in Japanese custody, peace was restored to the capital and its environs.

While the fighting was in progress, King Bao-Dai together with the Queen took shelter under the protection of the Japanese Army.

A full cabinet meeting before the King was instantly convened and at noon today, corresponding to January 2 of the Annamese calendar, the independence of Annam was declared, thus laying another cornerstone in the building of a new Greater East Asia.

Without the loss of a single drop of blood by the Annamites, the dream of the patriotic people of Annam for independence has been realized overnight. For 60 years they could do nothing without French intervention. Their kings had been exiled or poisoned when they had led their country in a movement to overthrow foreign domination but, in spite of repeated failures, the resolve to achieve independence still burned among the people. With independence gained, the Annamites are now placing their full confidence on the Japanese.

## MUTUAL SUSPICIONS CAUSE EMASCULATION OF UNRRA

### Nothing More Than Chungking Relief Organ, Observers at Sydney Conference Assert

**Special to the Nippon Times**

LISBON, March 12.—Indications are that due to British, French and the Netherlands' suspicions that American officials of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration would prepare the ground in Java, Malaya and French Indo-China for large-scale American economic invasion, observers at the UNRRA Conference in Sydney have reached the conclusion that the UNRRA in the Pacific will likely be little more than a Chungking relief society. The Sydney correspondent of the News Chronicle reports:

"Observers at the UNRRA Conference in Sydney have reached the conclusion that the UNRRA in the Pacific will likely be little more than a Chungking relief society. Supply of goods and raw materials at short notice, assistance by the UNRRA doctors, and help in returning displaced persons to their homes, would be confined to other nations than Britain, the United States, France, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, India and the Philippines.

"Britain, France and the Netherlands have made it clear that they would carry out their own relief and reconstruction work in their own way with their own goods. They do not want American UNRRA officials to go to Java, Malaya and French Indo-China to distribute largesses "breaking down the traditional relations between the white and the native populations and laying the groundwork for foreign trade competition.

"The Chungking delegate, however, has requested for Chungking cash assistance amounting to 150,000,000 pounds sterling."

### Manpower Bill Unsettled

**Special to the Nippon Times**

LISBON, March 11.—The United States Senate approved its version of the Manpower Bill yesterday and sent it back to the Lower House, the Senate rejecting the Lower House's idea of "work or jail" penalty to draft men who fail to stay in or take essential war jobs, according to a Washington report. Instead, the Senate bill would provide fine and jail penalties for employers who hire more workers than the War Manpower Commission allows. The Senate had once taken this clause out of the bill but yesterday revised its plan.

## MANY CITIES IN INDO-CHINA OCCUPIED BY OUR ARMY

### Central and Southern Areas Taken Over; Most of Northern Zone Also Seized

**By H. HIDAKA**

**Of the Military Press Corp**

SAIGON, March 12.—Except Dong Dang and Moncay on the northern border of French Indo-China, central and southern Indo-China and most of the northern area have been completely occupied by the Japanese Forces thanks to their lightning action.

The central and southern sectors of Indo-China were completely occupied by the Japanese by the evening of March 10. In the northern sector after smashing minor resistance, Haiphon, Tho Son, Lao Kay and other cities fell into Japanese hands by yesterday noon. At Dong Dang and Moncay, the enemy is offering very little resistance.

### Peace, Order Reign

**By N. NISHITSUJI**

**Of the Military Press Corps**

SAIGON, March 12.—Thanks to the rapid and effective measures dopted by the Japanese Forces, peace and order are prevailing in the big cities in French Indo-China including Saigon, Chelon, Hanoi, Phnom-Penh and Hue.

In Saigon and Chelon, no economic unrest has been witnessed, the prices of rice and corn staying the same as before. No stocking up and hoarding which usually become rampant among the people with the spread of war flames are found in those cities. With the circulation of the piatre sound, misgivings of the native inhabitants as to the economic disturbance have been swept away. Thus, the Japanese activities in French Indo-China are being carried out with the sincere cooperation of the native inhabitants.

Due to the lightning action launched by the Japanese Forces, the French Indo-China army apparently had no time to destroy communication facilities and electric plants, and the streets are lighted as before.

### Smith Replaces Calhoun

**Domei**

LISBON, March 11.—Vice-Admiral William Calhoun, Commander of the Commissary Unit of the U.S. Pacific Fleet has been replaced by Vice-Admiral William Smith, Director of Naval Operations and former Chief of the Transportation Department, the U.S. Navy Department announced yesterday, according to a Pearl Harbor dispatch.

## ITO SHOCK ATTACK UNIT CITED FOR HEROIC FEATS

### Nippon Heroes Severely Hit U.S. Armored Forces Driving Toward Manila

The great exploits of the Ito Shock Attack Unit, which was cited for distinguished service in the Luzon war sector where it attacked the American forces, have now been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, the War Ministry announced on Tuesday.

Text of the announcement follows:

"A citation had been granted previously to the Ito Shock Attack Unit, which distinguished itself by extraordinary exploits in an attack on enemy forces in operations on Luzon Island, and this fact has now been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor."

**CITATION**

Sergeant Major Kenjiro Ito
and 47 picked non-commissioned officers and soldiers

The above made a smashing attack on powerful enemy armored units advancing southward in the vicinity of Santa Maria and Bokawe toward Manila between the night of February 2 and the morning of the following day with all the members of the unit cooperating closely.

Up to 1 p.m. on February 3 they had blasted eight enemy tanks, four trucks and one sidecar, besides killing or wounding more than 350 enemy troops. On our side, 20 officers including the Unit Commander met a glorious end.

The feats of these Japanese heroes who were burning with high fighting spirit are really glorious and gallant. They accomplished their mission fully by carrying out successful death-defying attacks. The military achievements of the Unit are particularly great and are a model for all Japanese soldiers.

Wherefore a citation is hereby issued.

February 5, 1945,
The Army Commander.

## NAVY AIRMEN HONORED

### 56 Heroes Posthumously Granted Various Martial Orders

Special posthumous honors have been awarded to Commander Yasushi Yamada and 55 other Naval air heroes, it was announced by the Navy Ministry and the Bureau of Decorations under today's date. The 56 Naval airmen fell in heroic ramming action against enemy task forces in the Philippine area between October 27, and November 21, last year. These heroic airmen, who were members of the Second, Fourth and Fifth Shimpu Special Attack Units, were given special promotions on February 20, and 23.

Those honored at this time included: Commanders Yamada and Naoji Fukabori, who were granted the Third Class Order of the Golden Kite, the Fourth Class Order of Merit and the Fourth Class Order of the Rising Sun; Lieutenant Commanders Isamu Fujimoto, Kazuo Tsuchiya, Isao Danno, Chiyuki Goshima, Tadashi Tanabe and Toshio Kondo, who were granted the Third Class Order of the Golden Kite, the Fifth Class Order of Merit, and the Fifth Class Order of the Rising Sun; and Lieutenants Sadayoshi Kato and Taro Kudo were also granted the Third Class Order of the Golden Kite, the Fifth Class Order of Merit and the Fifth Class Order of the Rising Sun.

## REDS CALL CHIANG LUNATIC

### Chinese Communists Unwilling to Fight Under U.S. Commander

**Special to the Nippon Times**

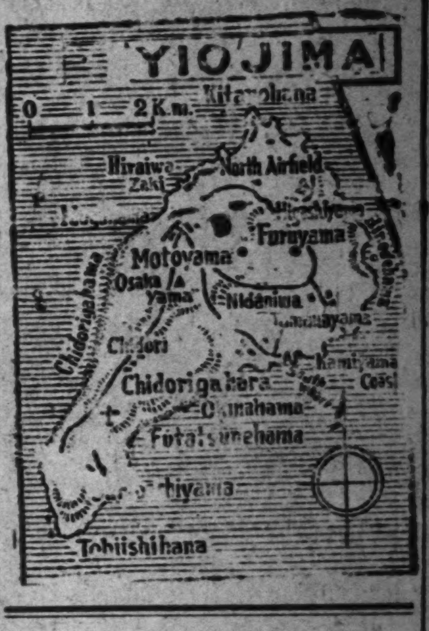
LISBON, March 11.—The Chinese Communist Party considers General Chiang Kai-shek a Fascist, reactionary, gangster, ruffian and a lunatic under a coalition government, declared the spokesman of the Yenan regime today. He said that the Communist troops will not fight under an American commander unless the entire Chungking army is reorganized.

Meanwhile, a Chungking report said that General Chiang speaking today on the 20th anniversary of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, noted Chinese patriot, told the Chinese people to prepare themselves for a decisive battle against Japan on the Asiatic Continent and he also urged the people to redouble their war effort.

### Foresee Postwar Rations

**Domei**

ZURICH, March 11.—Competent authorities in London are of the opinion that the rationing measures in Europe cannot be radically modified for at least two years after the termination of the war, according to the local paper, Schreizer Hoterrevew.



## ENEMY MAKES EXCUSES FOR DEADLOCK ON YIOJIMA

### U.P. Scribe Says There Is a Limit to Power of Endurance Of U.S. Marines

**Domei**

LISBON, March 12.—"The resistance of the Japanese continues to be fierce to an extreme degree. On March 7 our marines engaged in hand-to-hand fights with the Japanese but were able to make only a slight headway," states a communique issued on March 8 by the headquarters of Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, according to a dispatch from Guam. This report is but one of many sent by the enemy to his homeland revealing, even in their brevity, the intensity of the fierce battle raging on Yiojima and the staunch resistance of the Japanese Forces.

A United Press dispatch from Guam elaborated on the above communique, saying in part: "The American marines were attacked all along the entire front by the Japanese who, from their numerous pillboxes and other points of resistance, and with their backs against precipitous cliffs, kept up a steady bombardment in which machineguns and smaller guns were used."

It is also said that Major General Harry Schmitt, Commander of the Amphibian Unit of the Fifth Marine Division which is participating in the Yiojima operations, stated to the UP war correspondent attached to the division: "Yiojima's defenses are very powerful. We will have to deal with the Japanese troops one by one. Thus, the fighting will take longer than expected." In this way the Major General tried to explain the deadlock now existing in the war situation on Yiojima.

Schmitt's statement was endorsed by Admiral Richard Turner, Commander-in-Chief of the Amphibian Units conducting operations for the invasion of Yiojima, when he remarked to another war correspondent: "The forts of Yiojima are by far stronger than imagined by the American command. The defense system of the Japanese is certainly marvelously organized."

The resistance of the Japanese officers and men on Yiojima, who are determined to die in its defense, is such that it is impossible to hope to break it simply by material superiority. A UP correspondent, in his report of March 8, described the battle as "a struggle between the will to hold on of each officer and man of one contending force and of each officer and man of the other." He said: "The severe battle which is proceeding on this island does not mean that hostilities are at their final stage. A costly battle for each inch of ground is being fought hourly.

"It is now universal knowledge that the three U.S. marine divisions are throwing into the struggle all the materials which have taken them the past several years to acquire. The battle has now developed into a contest of will to endure between each officer and man of the two contending forces. There is a limit to the power of endurance of our officers and men who have to fight their way in the face of a determined resistance.

"The battle of Yiojima can be described as 'a fight to the last man.' As a matter of fact, we have already suffered heavy casualties."

### Stresses Nippon Navy's Power

**Domei**

LISBON, March 8.—"Because the Japanese Navy is as strong as ever, it can effectively obstruct any plans for an American attack on Japan Proper," Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, told navy pressmen today, on his unexpected return to Washington, according to a report from that city.

He further stated that the gaining of one base was not enough to launch attacks on Japan Proper. Many bases, several of which would be on the China Continent, would have to be secured in order to be successful in such an attempt, he continued. He also warned against the strong resistance of the Japanese who would continue fighting until the last man.

Question on the participation of the British fleet in the Pacific theater of war, Nimitz ambiguously replied that it was in readiness to come out and would take part in the last phase of the war against Japan.

# NIPPON TANK UNITS DEAL HEAVY BLOWS TO YIOJIMA ENEMY

### Account for 1,200 U.S. Troops Killed or Wounded in 10-Day Battle

In face of stubborn American attacks, Japanese Garrison Forces on Yiojima are securely holding various vital points on the front line extending from Hyoryuboku to Tenzan through the North Village while other units are also holding their positions at Tamanayama and Higashiyama.

Despite considerable damage, Japanese Tank Units are continuing to strike at the enemy with great success. In a 10-day battle from March 1, the Tank Units accounted for 1,200 American troops killed or wounded besides blowing up eight tanks, and they are now expanding their war results.

### Pitched Battle Raging

**Domei**

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, March 13.—Battles are still raging in the western sector of north Yiojima with the enemy attacking Tenzan with several tanks, while on the eastern side the enemy has gradually infiltrated into the Japanese positions. All day long on March 11 the Japanese and the enemy confronted each other in pitched battles at a distance of a few hundred meters and with the enemy intent on establishing his position, artillery firing was kept up with undiminishing relentlessness.

### Enemy Navy Guns Active

**Domei**

CERTAIN BASE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA, March 12.—Bringing several cruisers and destroyers within some 1,000 meters of the northern tip of Yiojima Island, the enemy forces have been directing thunderous bombardments against the Japanese as devastating battles still rage on the Island.

Before daybreak on March 10, some 400 enemy troops supported by several tanks launched an attack on the Tenzan area and continued operations till the evening of the same day. The Japanese, furiously counterattacking the enemy, blasted one tank, inflicted heavy casualties on the invaders, and repulsed the rest.

In the Higashiyama area, the enemy forced the Australians, Chinese and Negro troops to hold the foremost front, as they attempted to detour to the back of the Japanese position. In the northern sector, the Japanese completely frustrated the enemy offensive, causing some 600 casualties, when powerful enemy forces stormed the northern sector on March 10 and 11. In the course of the battle, Japanese troops charged with their headquarters' defense accounted for more than 80 enemy killed or wounded.

Meanwhile, the enemy has been continuing heavy cannonading from warships offshore in an attempt to frustrate the Japanese activities.

## AREAS IN TAIWAN RAIDED

### Takao, Taichu, Boketo Hit; B-24's Attack Tarakan

Twenty enemy fighter planes raided Takao and Taichu on March 11 and after dropping bombs fled southward. Meanwhile, Boketo was also raided by several enemy bombers.

### B-24's Bomb Tarakan

**Domei**

TARAKAN, March 12.—For about an hour from 10:30 a.m. yesterday 16 B-24's raided this city. Fires were caused in the main streets and the residential districts by incendiary bombs were soon put under control.

### B-29 Bombs Yokosuka

One B-29 bomber coming from the direction of Lake Hamana and Kofu raided Yokosuka at 8:30 p.m. on Monday. Some explosives were dropped but damage was slight. Shortly after 3 a.m. the next day two B-29's coming one after the other penetrated the skies over Nagasaki, and flew over Saseho before fleeing.

# ITALIAN WAR CRIMINALS SENTENCED BY BONOMI

## Roatta Given Life Sentence; Death Penalty Is Passed On Ambassador Anfuso

Domei

LISBON, March 12. — General Mario Roatta, former Italian Chief of Staff, who escaped from a hospital during his trial as a Fascist collaborationist was today sentenced to to life imprisonment in his absence by the Bonomi regime, according to a Rome dispatch.

Ambassador in Berlin, Filippe Anfuso of the Social Republic of Fascist Italy, was sentenced to death the same dispatch said, which continued that sentences of 24 years imprisonment were passed on former Ambassador Fulvio Suvich, and former Governor General of Albania Count Francesco Jacomoni who are both in custody; General Alberto Pariani, former Undersecretary for War, who is now in North Italy was given a 15-year term; while General Paolo Angioy, who is a prisoner in German hands, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

### Gen. Roatta Rearrested

Domei

LISBON, March 12—General Mario Roatta, whose escape last week precipitated an Italian Government crisis, has been rearrested, the Paris radio said on March 10, quoting official Rome reports. Roatta escaped while on trial in Rome on war crime charges. He was the Italian army chief of staff under the Fascist regime.

### Not Appointing Envoy

Domei

LISBON, March 10.—The Bonomi government decided not to appoint an Italian ambassador to Paris for the time being, according to a Rome dispatch. The tense inner political situation is mentioned as the reason for this delay.

### Italian Disorder Unsettled

Domei

LISBON, March 8.—The disturbance in Italy arising out of the escape of General Mario Roatta, former Chief of Staff of the Mussolini Army, from prison on March 6, is still continuing with no settlement in sight.

Someone, according to a Rome dispatch, fired at dead of night yesterday on two mounted gendarmes guarding the entrance of the Ponanome Sanatorium where is confined Count Francesco Jacomoni, who is looked on as an Italian war criminal of the importance of General Roatta, and caused a great commotion.

The man who attacked the gendarmes, according to an Associated Press dispatch, was in league with the workers in the movement of demonstrating against the Bonomi Government. The report indicated that the man who fired on the gendarmes seemed unsuccessful in his attempt to break into the sanatorium.

However, a Reuter dispatch was positive that the attacker of the gendarmes was of the band of men who assisted in the escape of Roatta from his place of confinement and it was his intention to rescue Jacomoni.

Count Jacomoni was formerly Governor General of Albania and stands accused of perpetrating the assassination of the late King Alexander of Yugoslavia and being the man responsible for the organization of the international secret police. There was a time when the Albanian Government was demanding the International Committee of Inquiry into War Criminals in London to turn Jacomoni over to it.

As to the whereabouts of General Roatta, nothing is known. A report gaining wide currency in some quarters here declared that Roatta fled into London after his escape from prison. Those who would believe this report are tending to see connection between the British Government and Roatta's escape.

## F.D.R. Sees Military Heads

Domei

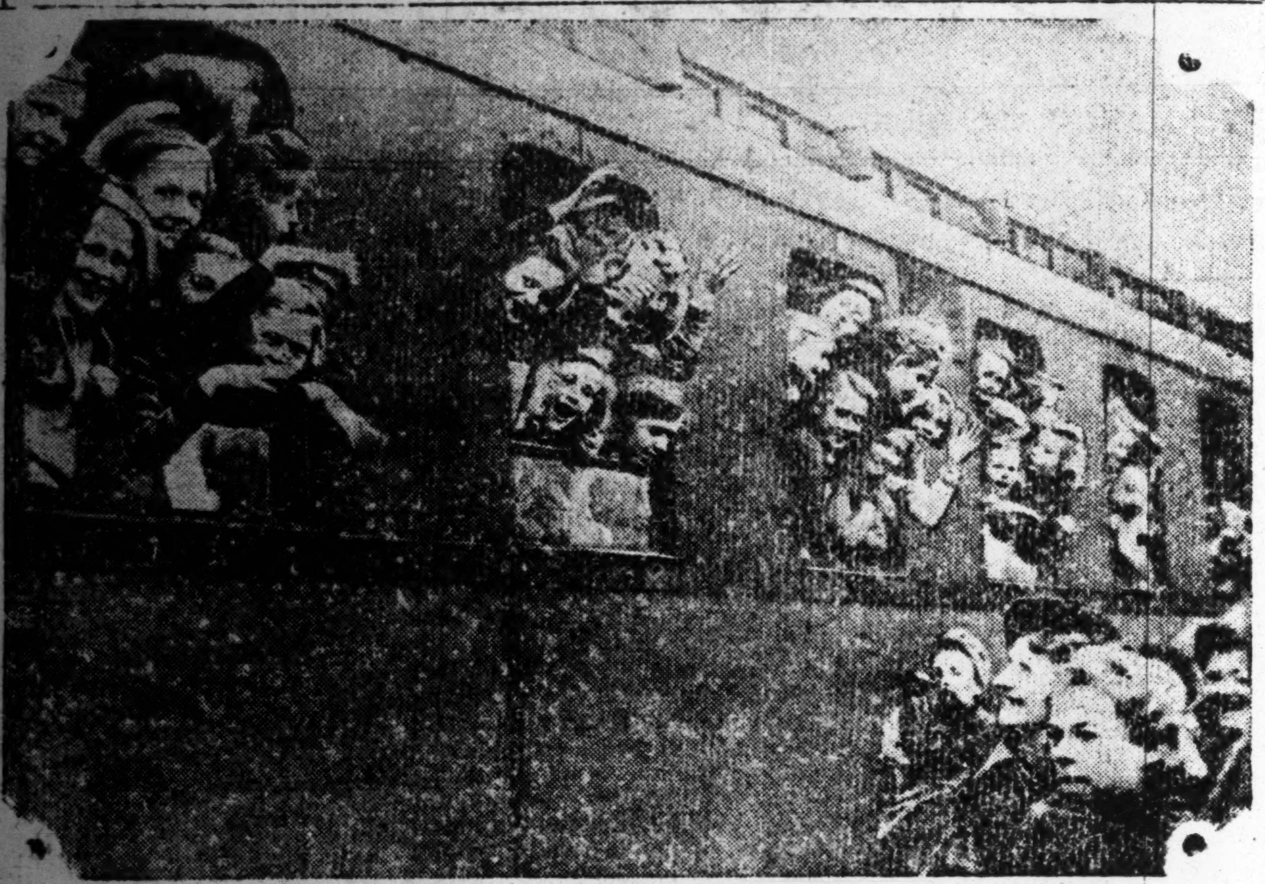
LISBON, March 10. — President Roosevelt conferred on March 8 with Admiral William Halsey, Commander of the American Third Pacific Fleet, Patrick Hurley, U.S. Ambassador to Chungking, and Lieutenant General Albert Wedemeyer, Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces in China, who are all back in the United States, according to a Washington dispatch. Yesterday, the President was scheduled to see Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the American Pacific Fleet, who is also in Washington, the dispatch added.

## EAM Sees Chaos in Greece

Domei

LISBON, March 11.—Appealing to U.S. Ambassador to Greece Lincoln MacVeagh, EAM delegates and signatories to the agreement with the Greek Government said yesterday that the Greek national resistance movement is being persecuted all over Greece and there is a danger of chaos in the country if attempts against the Leftists are continued, according to an Athens dispatch. The delegation protested particularly against the sentence of death passed on an ELAS supporter, Michael Monada, whose offences were committed during the Greek rebellion.

# Berlin's Schoolgirls Evacuate



In view of the tense war situation, Berlin authorities are continuing the evacuation of noncombatants as one of the vital anti-air raid measures against Anglo-American terror-raiders and also to facilitate the defense of the Reich capital. Above is a farewell scene at a station in Berlin where robust German schoolgirls recently parted with their parents for the duration.

# AMERICAN NEGROES FIGHT RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

## Know From Experience That Justice Cannot be Left to White Man's Conscience

The war has set the American Negro marching. Where he is going he is pretty sure of. How he will get there he hasn't quite made up his mind. But from New York City's Harlem to red-soil Georgia, he is on the way.

In February last year, James G. Thompson, a war-age Negro of Wichita, Kansas, wrote to the Pittsburgh Courier: "Will things be better for the next generation of Negroes in the peace to follow? Would it be too much to demand greater liberty and opportunity for the people of my race, in exchange for the sacrifice of my life?" His proposal was: "Let colored Americans adopt the Double V—VV—for a double victory: the first over our enemies from without, the second over our enemies within."

This proposal the Courier, largest and most potent of Negro periodicals, put in inch-high type on its front page; enlisted its 8,000 dealers; distributed bushels of Double-V buttons, blotters and car-stickers bearing the legend "Democracy: At Home—Abroad." National Negro organizations and other newspapers endorsed the idea. The five leading Negro denominations called on their 40,000 ministers to celebrate Easter as "Double Victory Day." In Evansville, Indiana, 10,000 Negroes staged a Double-V mobilization meeting.

This rush to the Double-V bandwagon is symptomatic of what the Negro thinks about the war as it affects him.

The Negro knows from experience that his future cannot be left wholly to the unprodded action of the white man's conscience. He is prepared to use the war and the white man's global embarrassments to speed up his advance.

### Negroes Rap Injustice

"I believe in the religion of Christ and the Constitution of the United States," a Negro businessman in Pittsburgh said, "but in the way they are supposed to function."

The People's Voice, a weekly tabloid edited by the Rev. Adam C. Powell, Jr., minister of Harlem's Abyssinia Baptist Church, the world's largest Negro congregation, declares: "As long as Negroes are kept in the glory-hole of ships, in the isolated 99th Pursuit Squadron, in the Jim Crow regiments of the army, and get no closer to the assembly line in defense industries than as porters in the toilets, the war is futile and the peace is already lost."

When the U.S. War Department sent out a picture of heavyweight champion Joe Louis and his recent ring opponent, Billy Conn, sitting side by side in army unifirm, the Washington Afro-American published it with the caption "Stupid Army Regulations Say That They Can't Fight Side by Side."

"The loyalty of our race to the ideal of democracy remains unshaken," said the Michigan Chronicle, "but we have a legitimate grievance and we intend to be heard."

### Emancipation Due

"In the past," said the Afro-American, "the nation has welshed on Lincoln. The time is ripe for a new emancipation."

The Negro effort to hurry this emancipation often lacks finesse, is sometimes injudicious, and in some instances is exploited by the considerable number of Negroes who live by agitation. Communist influence among—Negroes, once strong has declined toward the vanishing point.

Substantial Negro leaders believe that democracy can be made more worthy of the Negroes sacrifices abroad if it is made more effective, in his behalf, "here at home."

### Segregation Displeasing

U.S. Army policy now calls for Negro units in every branch of its service. That these outfits are segregated is vastly displeasing to some Negro professionals. Among the Negro outfits are the 99th Air Corps Squadron, the famous 41st "singing engineers," the 768th Tank Battalion, the 92nd Infantry Division.

In the U.S. Navy, up to mid-April, Negroes could serve only as messmen. At Pearl Harbor a colored messman rushed up from his galley, manned a gun, and was subsequently decorated for his heroism. Today the navy, in accordance with a more liberalized policy, accepts Negroes and, under their own petty officers, they will man certain small naval craft.

This victory for Negro leadership and ability the Courier headlined: "We Asked for More—We Want More—We Deserve More."

### Employment Discrimination

Nowhere is the Negro fighting more persistently under his Double-V than in the field of employment. His most pressing problems are economic. So are his aspirations. Before the war, only a few plants—Henry Ford's being the most notable—gave the Negro an equal chance to rise in the industrial scale. When management did not discriminate, the union did.

Negroes are 10 per cent of U.S. population but for 10 years they have comprised 20 per cent of our unemployed. They were "last hired and first fired." A government survey found that of 29,215 employes in 10 war plants in the New York area only 142 were Negroes. In 56 war-contract factories in St. Louis last year, each employed an average of three Negroes. Outside the NYA and WPA, there was practically no provision for Negroes in the program of war-employment training.

### March on Washington

To dramatize this situation, A. Philip Randolph, forthright head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, last summer called for a "Negro march on Washington." Buses were hired, special trains chartered and a capital visitation of at least 50,000 Negroes appeared to be in prospect.

White Washington, as the Negroes hoped, was stirred. Mrs. Roosevelt, sometimes known among colored people as the "Great White Mother," asked Negro leaders to call off the march. They refused. President Roosevelt called them to the White House and made the same request. They refused again—unless the President agreed to issue an order, with teeth in it, banning discrimination against Negroes in war industry and training. They got the order. The President also set up a Fair Employment Practice Committee, with two of its seven members Negroes, to carry out this promise. It has, however, by no means ended the Negroes economic problems.

In January 1941 there were fewer than 300 Negroes in the aviation industry. By April 1942, there were 3,500, a majority of them in skilled or semi-skilled production work. In September 1940, 5,900 Negroes were employed in navy yards. A year later there were three times that number, working in 37 different crafts. In three leading East Coast shipbuilding companies today, Negro employment is 24 per cent of the total. In Detroit nearly 1,500 Negroes have completed eight weeks' training as machine-tool operators, welders and riveters. One unit of the new U.S. Cartridge plant in St. Louis will be entirely manned by Negroes.

These war strides have been particularly notable in the South. During 1941 the navy yard at Charleston, S.C., increased the percentage of its Negro employes from 9.5 to 17.7. Negro employment in the Norfolk navy yard has more than tripled since September 1940 and now stands at approximately 25 per cent of the total employed.

That these, among the country's 13,000,000 Negroes, are no more than "token" achievements is continually proclaimed by some Negro leaders and most of the Negro press.

There is no doubt he is far ahead of where he was in World War I. He is better educated, better led, better organized and more experienced in doing things in his own behalf.

Today only eight per cent of Negroes are illiterate, as compared with 30 per cent in 1910. There were 64 Negro high schools in 1915; today there are 2,500. Between 1930 and 1939 there were 16,500 Negroes graduated from college, more than twice as many as in the preceding decade. Ten years ago only 15 per cent of Negro supervisors of education in the South were college graduates; today 70 per cent are graduates and many have master's degrees.

### Church Is Powerful

Of the many agencies which influence Negro life, the most powerful is the church. The Negro goes to church not only because religion comes naturally to him. He goes because in church, more than anywhere else, he is in a world that uniquely and altogether belongs to him. Ten years ago the hold of the Negro church appeared to be slipping. Today it is in the midst of a healthy comeback due to the improved educational training of its preachers and to the fact that, during and since the depression, many of these ministers have stepped to the front in the Negro's effort to lift the level of his own life.

In Detroit a mass meeting was called to discuss the employment of Negro women in war industries. The discussion was led by a Negro official of the United Automobile Workers Union and a Negro Episcopal clergyman. For sound sense the preacher had the better of it.

Churches that set the pace are more and more manned by men who studied for the ministry in first-rate seminaries. The largest Negro school for ministers is Gammon Theological Seminary, a Methodist institution in Atlanta. Its students are trained not only in the Scriptures but in such practical matters as the construction of septic tanks, the importance of screens, and family hygiene. They take courses in Atlanta University's excellent School of Social Work. Every summer Gammon runs an Institute which brings in preachers from rural areas for the same sort of training.

### Negroes Organize

Negro self-determination and self-help are given similarly aggressive leadership by the National Urban League, organized in 48 cities; by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which has 565 chapters extending even to rural communities and is the nearest thing to a national Negro lobby; and by the National Negro Congress, with its 102 chapters.

Prior to the appearance of the CIO, organized labor, with few exceptions, had bars up against Negroes, and 24 unions—ten of them AFL—still follow the policy, "Never let a Negro pick up a tool." The CIO, however, set out to organize the colored workman.

Negro labor responded with a rush. Five years ago Negro unionists in Detroit numbered a few hundred. Today the United Automobile Workers alone has between 25,000 and 40,000. Negro union members in New York City total 70,000. Of the 102,000 CIO members in Alabama, one third are Negroes. Almost all of these CIO unions have some Negro officers, and a Negro is president of a large steel workers' local near Birmingham.

The better-organized determination of the Negroes to improve their lot is backed, too, by a powerful Negro press. There are 230 Negro papers—of all varieties, with a total circulation of 1,406,800, reaching probably one third of the country's 13,000,000 Negroes.

### Press Espouse Cause

These papers are not organs of general news. They are more accurately, house organs for the national Negro community. The news they publish is almost wholly Negro news. The cause they espouse are Negro causes. Too often they lean to the side of sensationalism. Their effort to turn every incident to race account is as uniform and, sometimes, as poorly supported by the facts as the class-angle policy of the Communist Daily Workers. Much of the self-assertiveness, some of it misguided, now apparent among Negroes can be traced to the journalistic diet on which many of them are nourished.

In St. Louis, Convention Hall was filled to capacity each night with an "Old-Fashioned Revival" in which, according to the original plans, Negroes were to be segregated. The Negroes, with churches of their own to go to, objected so strenuously in their press, pulpits and mass meetings that the fence came down.

When, last winter, Negroes discovered that the American Red Cross refused to accept Negro blood, Negro opinion was promptly mobilized to fight the ban. After some weeks, the Red Cross partially revised its policy. Negro blood is now accepted, but it is segregated, presumably for Negro troops.

### Experience Teaches

The Negro has learned in the past 25 years that by picketing the stores where he trades he can force them to hire colored help; that his meetings, petitions and hearings get him better schools and more recreational facilities; that lawsuits result in increased salaries for Negro teachers; that through union activity he can get more jobs at better pay; that the delegations he sends to Washington do, in time, produce slum clearance and housing projects.

Proof of what the Negro can do is appearing from many quarters. Whether the Negro's aggressiveness will get out of bounds depends a great deal on the spirit with which the white man receives his legitimate aspirations. Much has been done in recent years by whites and Negroes alike to improve race relations. There is much more yet to be done. More deeply than ever before in his history, the Negro is sure that he has what it takes and can deliver.

# NEW CHUNGKING CURRENCY LINKED TO U.S. DOLLAR SET

## Chiang's Desperate Move Gives Yanks Full Control of His Economic Setup

Domei

CANTON, March 8.—Chungking has decided to issue a new currency with American assistance, as the first step in a currency reform, according to information reaching here. The new paper money will be linked with the American dollar, and two dollars of the new currency will be exchangeable for one American dollar, while the value of the present Chungking currency will be fixed at 100 dollars against one American dollar.

The present official exchange rate between the Chungking and American currencies is 20 dollars of the former against one dollar of the latter. By adopting the ratio of 2 to 1 for the new currency, Chungking hopes to prevent the total collapse of the present legal tender by redeeming it or by converting it into subsidiary currency.

In the anticipation that the American dollar will dominate the postwar world, Chungking is said to be contemplating the adoption of the gold standard, in order to maintain its prestige as one of the four great economic powers.

The new paper currency to be popularly known as the Soong currency will, however, involve complete American control of Chungking economy. On the other hand, the new currency measure will weaken the British position in China's economy. It is recalled that the present currency system of Chungking was adopted with the assistance of Sir Leith-Ross.

The prevention of the total collapse of the present currency is the important aim that has led Chungking to issue the new paper money, but this will aggravate the prevailing currency confusion, since under the new arrangement the official value of the present currency will be changed from 20 to 100 dollars against one American dollar.

## Vatican Denies Rift

Domei

LISBON, March 11.—The Vatican today denied that negotiations are going on with the Soviet Union, according to a Rome dispatch. The statement issued by the Vatican press service said, "Reports stating that Vatican circles have confirmed the existence of negotiations with the Soviet Union are false. Nothing is known of any such negotiations."

## *Wounded U.S. Forces Pour Daily into Oahu From Yiojima Island*

Domei

**LISBON March 12.—An average of 250 American wounded soldiers are being daily sent back to Honolulu, stated an AP correspondent at Honolulu, admitting the large number of casualties sustained by the U.S. forces on Yiojima, according to a dispatch from New York today. In this connection, the correspondent further revealed that the Sky Masters, American hospital planes attached to the Air Transportation Unit, had been arriving at Oahu Island day and night, in succession, carrying back wounded Marines.**

# THAI CO-EFFORT ASSURED FOR NIPPON MOVE IN F.I.C.

## New Setup in Indo-China Does Not Affect Japan-Thailand Relations

Domei

BANGKOK, March 10.—Calling at the official residence of the Thai Prime Minister on Friday evening, Japanese Ambassador Itaro Mizuno explained to Prime Minister Khuang Aphaiwong and Foreign Minister Sisena Sombatsiri the Japanese policy of further strengthening the close and cordial relations with Thailand according to the Japan-Thai Alliance Treaty, as the new situation in French Indo-China will not cause any change in Japan-Thai relations.

At the same time, the Japanese Ambassador asked for the cooperation of Thailand as regards the present step taken by the Japanese Army in Indo-China, and asked that French troops and police fleeing from French Indo-China to Thai territory should be disarmed, that the French diplomats and residents in Thailand should be accorded the same treatment as given the French residents in Japan, and that the exchange of goods between French Indo-China and Thailand should be further stimulated.

Prime Minister Aphaiwong fully understood Japan's position and consented to give his full cooperation.

### Thai Army Gives Support

Domei

BANGKOK, March 10.—The Commander of a Japanese Unit stationed in Thailand conferred with the Thai Defense Minister, Vice-Admiral Sin Kamonnawin, on Friday evening and asked for the cooperation of Thailand as regards the new situation in French Indo-China.

The closing of the Thai-French Indo-China frontier and the disarming of the French Indo-China troops entering Thailand, were also asked. Moreover, the Japanese Commander proposed to leave to the Thai Government all affairs respecting French interests in Thailand.

The Thai Army promised to fully cooperate with the Japanese Forces.

# U.S. BOLSTERS AIR POWER

## Sends More Planes to Remaining Bases in China

**By M. MATSUO**

**Of the Military Press Corps**

CHINA FRONT, March 11.—The American air force in China, since the beginning of the current year when it lost its air bases in Southwestern China, is now making strenuous efforts to increase its strength by means of its bases at Kunming, Chengtu, Sian and Kweiyang on the one hand, and repeating its attacks on railways in North and Central China on ships on the Yangtze as well as on Japanese Air Units stationed in the continent.

During February, the enemy air force in China made 198 air raids. The number of planes used totaled 818, which means that about 30 attacked each day on an average. The enemy planes used in these air raids were North American P-51's, P-40's, and P-47's.

Meanwhile, America is continuing to send planes to China in order to bolster her air force there. Moreover, the Chungking air force is also increasing its air strength by all possible means in order to take part in major counteroffensive operations in cooperation with the American troops when they land on the China coast. Thus, a decisive air battle in China looms.

## Largest Diamond Found

Domei

LISBON, March 12.—The recent discovery in East Africa, of a diamond, the largest so far found in the world, was announced by the British Colonial Office on March 10, according to a London dispatch. This diamond, which is rose-colored and weighs 120 carats, was discovered by a young miner in the mining district of Tanganyika. The precious find is valued at £15,000 in the state of ore, says the report.

# NANKING ALSO SUPPORTS NIPPON ARMY'S DECISION

## Concrete Steps Already Taken Regarding Co-Effort With Japan on F.I.C. Issue

Domei

NANKING, March 11.—Deciding to wholeheartedly cooperate with Japan in the urgent measures taken by the Japanese authorities in French Indo-China, the National Government of China issued the following statement at 5 p.m. yesterday.

"Since the conclusion of the protocol for the joint defense of French Indo-China, the Government of Japan, our ally, has ever observed the terms of the agreement and in full cooperation with the French authorities and troops devoted its best efforts for the defense of Indo-China and the preservation of East Asia. But of late, the attitude of the French authorities gradually changed, and as they showed no intention of mending their ways, Japan has been obliged to take an urgent measure to prevent the continuance of such an attitude on the part of the French Indo-China authorities.

"The National Government of China gives its wholehearted cooperation to the said step taken by the Japanese Government according to the spirit of the Japan-China Alliance Treaty and the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asiatic Nations, and although we will enforce the suspension of the activity of French authorities in China we have decided to take a generous attitude as regards the rights and interests of the French officials and residents.

"French Indo-China forms a front-line base of East Asia and has a very close relation with our country. Now if the people of French Indo-China are to strive to guard the territory, to defend it against foreign invasion, and to liberate themselves and East Asia, then the National Government of China will willingly give its aid and cooperation to them."

### French Troops Disarmed

Domei

SHANGHAI, March 11.—Japanese military authorities in Shanghai, yesterday, disarmed the French troops which had been reorganized as a part of the French Indo-China army with the surrender of the French concession last year, as well as the French Police Force at Shanghai. At 4 p.m. the same day the Japanese military authorities issued the following statement.

"In conformity with the measures taken by our troops stationed in French Indo-China toward the Indo-China authorities, the disarming of the French troops and police forces at Shanghai was carried out peacefully on March 10."

## U.S. Drops Pipeline Plan

Domei

LISBON, March 11.—The United States Government is no longer negotiating about the construction of a pipline from the Persian Gulf to the Suez Canal, it was announced by the State Department today in denying reports to the contrary, according to a Washington report. This plan had been completely dropped and if such a pipeline should be built it would be done by private business and not by the Government, the announcement added.

## Penicillin For Yanks

Domei

LISBON, March 11.—With the loading of large quantities of penicillin on special transport vessels equipped with refrigeration facilities completed at Los Angeles, American ships will shortly leave to carry the medicine to be used in the treatment of great number of wounded soldiers in the Pacific area, it was announced by the United States Government, according to a Wilmington, California, dispatch recently.

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# ESSEN IS HEAVILY BOMBED

## Krupps' Plants Attacked When RAF Drops 5,000 Tons of Bombs

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 11.—Between 4,000 and 5,000 tons of bombs were dropped on Essen—the whole Ruhr industry—in half an hour today, according to a London report. It was the RAF bomber command's greatest daylight attack of the war, the report said.

Krupps' vast arms works, Essen's marshalling yards and inland docks were among the targets. The raid was made by more than 1,000 Lancasters and Halifaxes. That these night bombers launched a daylight attack is significant, the report further continued, adding that the great four-engined bombers were accompanied by 200 Mustang and Spitfires. It said that over the English countryside they formed an armada of more than 100 miles long.

### Ruhr District Bombed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 10. — More than 1,850 U.S. 8th Air Force bombers and fighters joining with hundreds of other American and British warplanes from forward bases on the continent today made another attack on the Ruhr industrial districts, according to a London report. The heavy bombardment group of the British-based planes included more than 1,350 Flying Fortresses and 500 Liberators. Among the major targets attacked by the American heavy bombers were three railroad yards at Dortmund, 30 miles behind the Rhine, Soest and Paderborn, after the British Lancasters bombed the Scholven-Buer oil plant in the Ruhr, while the RAF Spitfires also made many sweeps on the rocket zones in Holland.

### Reich Navy Raids Granville

Domei

BERLIN, March 10.—Units of the German navy under the command of Lieutenant Commander Mohr on Friday made a commando raid against the port of Granville on the Gulf of St. Malo in Normandy and sank an American patrol boat and five vessels aggregating 4,800 tons. In addition the commando destroyed 19 cranes in the port as well as numerous locomotives, railroad cars and motor trucks in the port area. The commando liberated 65 German prisoners of war whom they found shovelling coal. Also they took 28 prisoners including several officers and one official of the UNRRA. The commando forces, moreover, captured the enemy steamer Eakwood as a prize. The commando reached its base without the loss of a single craft.

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# LARGE-SCALE NIGHT RAIDS BY MARIANA ENEMY LOOM

### The Strategy Revealed by Past Raids, Yiojima Invasion, Lemay Appointment

Even now we must be prepared for 200-plane raids on the Japanese mainland by the Mariana-based American 21st Bomber Corps, Domei warns, pointing out that according to the latest information the Mariana enemy has between 250 and 300 planes, of which it has been usual for from 50 to 100 to be kept in reserve. Domei continues:

"If the enemy succeeds in adding Iojima to his chain of bases, a still greater number of bombers may come attacking the important centers in the eastern and central parts of the mainland of Japan.

"The enemy's intention to attain the maximum results with minimum losses is revealed by his tenacious resort to raids by isolated machines and small formations. A good knowledge of his tactics, obtained by studying his one-plane and small formation raids since the beginning of November is necessary, in order to strengthen our air defense.

"Raids by large formations of B-29's coming from the Mariana bases occurred three times during November, four times during December, six times during January, and five times during February, the total of machines used being respectively 130, 290, 430, and 480. In the intervals between the raids by large formations, isolated planes and small formations conducted repeated raids, which occurred six times in November, fifty-four times in December, sixty-six times in January, and ninety times in February. The raids by isolated machines and small formations, it will be noted, steadily increased in frequency. During the four months under consideration, the enemy carried out 216 small-scale raids, using altogether 250 machines.

"The attacks by isolated planes and small formations occurred during the night time, in the majority of cases. That is, night raids were carried out 169 times against 47 daylight raids, the former being more than three times as frequent as the latter. In precise figures, daylight raids occurred 35 times in the forenoon, 12 times in the afternoon, 38 times between sunset and 9 p.m., 42 times between 9 p.m. and midnight, 93 times between midnight and early morning. This shows that the time that people are usually in sound sleep is exactly the time requiring strict precautions. The number of days the enemy raids were carried out was 6 in November, 22 in December, and 28 in January, while during February the enemy came attacking every day.

"If the raids by large formations are added, only 31 days were free from air alarms in the period from November 1 to February 28. In other words, on 109 days the motors of the enemy B-29's were heard over the mainland of Japan. Raids occurred 13 times each on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 12 times on Mondays, and 11 times each on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The enemy is not avoiding Fridays and the thirteenth of the month, which is another point worth attention.

During November, no bombs were dropped in single-plane and small formation raids, but since December both bombs and incendiaries of various sizes have been dropped in increasing numbers in such raids. Obviously small scale raids must be treated as seriously as raids by larger formations. To quote figures, in small-scale raids bombs were dropped on 35 occasions; both bombs and incendiaries were dropped on 15 occasions; while on 83 occasions the enemy activity was limited to reconnoitering. An important point to be observed is that of 133 small-scale raids, bombs were dropped in only three during the daytime, a fact which tells much of the enemy tactics.

From the foregoing figures, certain conclusions may be deduced. The first is that enemy raids by isolated machines and small formations are carried out during the night in the majority of cases. The weather conditions during the night and early morning are telegraphed from these planes to the American bases, where weather charts are made to facilitate the next attacks. By thus enabling the air personnel to gain good experience during night raids over Japan, the enemy is preparing for large-scale night raids over the mainland. Considering that there were 216 small-scale raids in which 250 planes participated, during the period under review, and supposing the crew of each plane to be 11 and that the personnel was changed each time, a considerable number of enemy airmen already possess direct experience in night raids over Japan. If the leader machines of the enemy are staffed by these experienced airmen, large-scale night attacks are quite possible.

Another important factor that should never escape attention is that the enemy bases have been pushed much nearer to the Japanese mainland. Several raids during one night are no longer a rare phenomenon. This tendency has become marked since the attack by 130 planes on March 4, and mere nerve warfare has long ceased to be the enemy aim. The Americans have been gaining experience during these months, and it is no mistake to conclude that all this portends large-scale night raids. The Twenty-First Bomber Corps of the enemy is now commanded by Curtis Lemay, who personally directed terror raids over Hamburg and Berlin, which fact further increases the probability of such raids on the mainland of Japan.

The American air tactics are elastic, in the sense that they are modified on encountering strong resistance. Not only strong nerves but complete air defense is therefore absolutely necessary to meet the probable large-scale night raids of the enemy.

# Reich Memorial Day Observed

**Above photo shows German residents of Yokohama and Tokyo, led by German Ambassador H. G. Stahmer, giving the Nazi salute during the ceremony marking this year's War Memorial Day in memory of fallen German heroes, which was held at the German Embassy last Sunday morning. The gathering was addressed by Ambassador Stahmer and German Military Attache Lieutenant General Alfred Kretschmer, who extolled the sacrifices and deeds of those who laid down their lives on the battlefield and on the home front.**

# SWEDEN IS INCREASING TEXTILE PLANT OUTPUT

### Government Realistically Supporting Domestic Cultivation By Granting Loans

**(Continued From Friday)**

Hemp proper was cultivated in Sweden to some extent in olden days, but in course of time this cultivation was completely abandoned. The last remnant of this cultivation was found in the island of Gotland, where a small hemp-dressing mill had been erected, after a time that establishment too had to be closed down. In fact, the hemp produced in Sweden could not compete with the cheaper foreign hemp. However, when Sweden, owing to the war, was debarred from the importation of hemp fiber, interest in the domestic cultivation of hemp was revived.

After the establishment of the State Flax Board in the summer of 1940, the possibilities of organizing a domestic cultivation of hemp were investigated. Before the beginning of the present war about 1,500 tons of hemp proper were imported, and an area of 2,000 to 3,000 hectares is required for the domestic production of that quantity.

The first step toward the organization of a domestic cultivation of hemp was to procure seeds of varieties suited for conditions in Sweden. By experimental breeding at Svalof, it had been ascertained that a German variety, named "von Schurigs Hampf," was best adapted for cultivation in this country. Certain limited quantities of hemp seed were obtained from Germany in the spring of 1941, and an area of about 150 hectares, in different parts of the country, was then sown with hemp.

Government measures, similar to those above reported in regard to flax, have been taken also for the support of the domestic cultivation of hemp. Thus State loans and contributions for the erection of hemp-dressing mills can be obtained on the same lines as for flax-dressing mills. Guaranteed prices have been fixed, for the year 1942-1950, also for hemp: for hemp of first-class quality the growers are guaranteed a price corresponding to 50 per cent of the price of rye grain of the same year's harvest, the State contribution being, however, limited to 350 kronor per hectare. Besides, since 1941 the Government has guaranteed a certain price for hemp seed. These guaranteed prices have varied in the different years and for the 1944 crop of hemp seed it is one kronor 5 ore per kilo.

As the island of Gotland is particularly rich in "hemp soils," great interest has been taken there in the cultivation of hemp. The larger agricultural associations in that island have formed a company named AB. Hampberedning (Hemp Dressing Co., Ltd.) This company purchased a closed-down cement factory in the environs of Visby and, with the aid of a State loan, took steps to adapt it for the dressing of hemp and to provide it with the necessary machine equipment. Somewhat later, an association of hemp growers, named Swedish Hemp Growers' Association, was formed on the mainland, having purchased a closed down factory at Varnhol near Katrineholm, it proceeded to erect a hemp-dressing mill there. Both these hemp-dressing mills started operations in the summer of 1943.

In 1942 the domestic cultivation of hemp already comprised an area of some 2,000 hectares—about half of which was situated in the island of Gotland—and is on approximately the same scale in 1944.

The cultivation of hemp in Sweden, besides supplying the hemp industry raw material, may also entail certain advantages for agriculture in areas containing soils suitable for its cultivation. Hemp thrives in moist, friable soil with a large content of nitrogen. Even if good crops can be obtained from the best dry soil in high condition, there is greater reason to regard the friable, well-drained, peaty soils, besides bog-earth and so-called "dung soils," as the most suitable localities for the growth of the plant. Such naturally nitrogenous soil is found in abundance in this country.

Even poorer peaty soils may be suitable, if well manured. As only certain kinds of plants, such as rotation grasses, oats and rye can advantageously be cultivated on the above-mentioned soils, the same kind of plant recurs too frequently in the rotation of crops, which results in poorer harvests. By introducing hemp into the system of rotation, the course can be increased by one year, whereby better harvests can be obtained. As suitable soils of the above-mentioned kinds are particularly abundant in Gotland, the great interest taken there in the cultivation of hemp is quite intelligible. The farmers in those districts have been working for several years under very unfavorable conditions, and an improvement in their situation is therefore most desirable. The cultivation of hemp may conduce in some measure to the attainment of that aim. Similar conditions exist in many places on the mainland. There too it is hoped that the cultivation of hemp may be maintained and that the farmers will thereby be enabled to increase their earnings.

## Woman Educationist Passes

Miss Takeka Nishigori, formerly professor at the Nara Women's Higher Normal School, died from senile decay at her home at Shohara mura, Shimane Prefecture. She was 92 years old. She devoted the greater part of her life to women's education.

# News and Views

### The Act of Chapultepec

The formal adoption of the Act of Chapultepec by the Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference which was brought to a close last Saturday may be said to mark the end of a decade of America's so-called "Good Neighbor Policy" toward Latin America, heralding a new era of unmitigated intervention by the United States.

The Act calls for consultation and joint action, including the use of military force, in case of aggression against any American republic by any other government in the Western Hemisphere. It was forced on the helpless little nations below the Rio Grande by the Northern Colossus in the name of "hemispheric security," and the pill was made easier to swallow for the Latin American republic by being so sugar-coated as to appear as if it was really a concession by the United States.

For the complaint of the Hispano-Americans ever since 1823, the year President Monroe promulgated the notorious Doctrine bearing his name, was that the Doctrine was one-sided, being put into motion at the sole will of the United States. Here, according to the American delegation, in this new Act, was really a move to impart a multi-lateral aspect to the Doctrine as the Act calls for "consultation and joint action" in case of aggression.

But it is obvious that the hitherto unilateral nature of the Monroe Doctrine has been made multi-lateral only in outward appearance. What really happened was that the United States forced from the nineteen Latin American republics a formal agreement that she may intervene militarily in Central and South America whenever and wherever she may chose. For once America is given an excuse to use force south of the border by a signed pledge of the nineteen Latin American republic. Which Latin American country is going to have any effective voice as to the manner in which that force may be exercised by such a preponderantly overwhelming military power as the United States?

Thus the signing of the Act of Chapultepec sounds the death-knell of an era of "Good Neighbor Policy" pursued by the Hull-Welles combination. It was to be expected that Edward Stettinius, successor to Hull, and Nelson Rockefeller, the new Assistant Secretary of State, with their background of Big Business and bitter experiences with the pre-war economic nationalism of Latin America, should look toward a more arbitrary and ruthless policy vis-a-vis Latin America, especially in view of the present favorable position of the United States.

Latin Americans may do well to remember what happened during the period of America's interventionist policy beginning in 1895 when the then Secretary of State Richard Olney haughtily declared, "Today the United States is practically sovereign on this continent, and its fiat is law upon the subjects to which it confines its interposition." It was during this period that the United States made Cuba a virtual protectorate and annexed Puerto Rico, following which Theodore Roosevelt waved the Big Stick and seized Panama from Colombia, shamelessly admitting, "I took the Canal Zone and—while the debate goes on, the Canal itself."

In the light of Washington's past record of crime, one can well imagine what the new period of America's interventionist policy will bring. For in the Act of Chapultepec, the United States now for the first time in her history has formal acquiescence by the Ibero-American republics themselves in her evil designs of rounding out the complete enslavement of the North and South Americas.

Well may Senator Tom Connolly, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, rejoice, "I believe this (the Act of Chapultepec) will rank in future years as one of the great state papers set down for future generations to observe!"

# ENEMY AIMS TO DISRUPT CHINA'S RAIL TRANSPORT

### U.S. Planes Launch 89 Attacks In 20-Day Period During February

Domei

NANKING, March 10.—Up to a few months ago the American air force in China was concerned with the extension and strengthening of bases it had newly acquired, a course to which it was driven by the loss of its bases in Central and South China consequent upon the operations for the destruction of enemy air bases in the Suichwan-Kanchow area which were embarked upon by the Japanese Expeditionary Army in China following its operations along the southern section of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

Of late weeks, however, the American air force has day after day been turning its attention to the railway equipment under Japanese control, especially in North and Central China, with the aim of cutting into the air strength of the Japanese Expeditionary Army and hindering the working of the system of transport by land in areas under Japanese occupation.

During the short period of 20 days from February 1 till 20 the American air force made 79 attacks, employing a total of 306 planes.

Of these attacks 30 were made in the Central China area.

There were six attacks in the South China area.

The regions which had recently been added to the territory under Japanese occupation were attacked only once.

The remaining 42 attacks were all made in the North China area. A rapid increase was seen in the attention turned by the American air force to this part of China.

In the North China area the air-fields were attacked six times and the railway equipment 20 times.

In the Central China area the air-fields received the attention of the enemy eight times and the railway equipment 10 times.

Thus, it will be seen that there is little doubt as to the great concern of the American air force to interrupt the operation of the system of transport by land in North and Central China.

## Bolsters Regional Councils

In order to facilitate the work of chairmen of the Regional Administrative Councils, the Government has decided to reorganize the offices of the councils. Of the eight Local Administrative Councils, the Kanto-Shinetsu, Tokai-Hokuriku, Kinki and Kyushu Councils will have four departments each in their respective offices, while the Tohoku, Shikoku Chugoku and Hokkai Councils will have one to three departments. At the same time, the chairmen of the Regional Administrative Councils are to occupy concurrently the posts of directors of Military Supply Superintendence, for effecting closer cooperation between the regional administrative organs and the Army and Navy authorities.

# Press Comments

**Tuesday, March 13**

**THE ANNAMESE RETURN**

MAINICHI—Owing to the attitude of the French Indo-China Government and the F.I.C. Army, the Imperial Forces have been forced to take charge of the defense of French Indo-China. Moreover, the independence of Annam has been declared, signifying a great event within the Co-Prosperity Region of Greater East Asia. To the history of East Asia which is being written amidst warfare, a new and surprising, yet brilliant, page has been added.

From the time France declared war on Germany up to the time she surrendered our feelings toward France and French Indo-China have always been clear. Indeed, France, which rode on the Anglo-American tide, was an unpleasant existence throughout the China Affair. However, after her downfall, led by Chief of State Philippe Petain and Premier Pierre Laval, France tried to seek her own future within a new European order to be created in collaboration with Germany. During the period when France advanced along this line, our relations with that country were friendly, as were those with French Indo-China.

Intellectually speaking, the Annamese stand first among the peoples of the Region. In spite of their obvious aspirations, however, the problem of what would become of French Indo-China, a territory belonging to France who was collaborating with Germany, was not a simple one, and it seemed inevitable that the final decision on this problem would be left until the postwar period.

However, with the "liberation" of France, the situation changed. Although it may not have been expected that the F.I.C. authorities would adopt such an attitude as they now actually have, it was expected at the time De Gaulle returned to Paris from North Africa that the relations between Japan and French Indo-China would before long take a difficult course. Not only from the relations existing between De Gaulle and the Anglo-Americans but also from the fact that among De Gaulle's men there is the former Governor-General of French Indo-China, General Catroux, such expectations have been given a firm basis.

The attitude of the F.I.C. authorities has simplified the matter earlier than expected. Not only has our anomalous standing vis-a-vis Indo-China been normalized thereby, but it has enabled the return of the 24 million inhabitants to Asia. To them, who have often in the past shed their blood for freedom and independence, a great path into the future has been opened, a path which can be clearly recognized even in the midst of the conflagrations of war.

**WHAT IS PREREQUISITE FOR DECISIVE BATTLE ON MAINLAND**

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Yiojima, a small island in the Pacific, is being surrounded by a hundred and more enemy warships, large and small, and fiercely bombarded from north, south, east, and west; moreover, the enemy has landed a large force of 40,000 troops. The firing strength poured onto that small island by the enemy compares well with that of 50 divisions, and the amount of steel involved reaches several thousand tons. When these quantities are considered in connection with the island's dimensions of two ri from east to west and one ri from north to south (one ri equals 3.927 km), together with the geological features of the ground from which hot springs gush out if one digs a few feet then no matter how solidly our positions have been constructed, it is but natural that our garrison force will suffer heavy losses.

However, our Forces are fighting valiantly even under such adverse conditions, and have victimized more than half of the enemy's 40,000 landed troops. From the viewpoint of the numerical superiority of the enemy and the extension of geological and topographical features of the battlefield, the battle of Yiojima is without equal in the world's war annals, and the struggles of our valiant garrison are above praise. Their fighting should be a model, not only for soldiers but for our 100 million people too. We must be prepared to fight in the same way on the mainland as our garrison on Yiojima.

It goes without saying that the mainland too may be turned into a fortress even more solid than that of Yiojima. This depends on the decisive wartime politics of the mainland, whether or not it can both materially and spiritually be fortified to such an extent that we can fight in the same manner as the officers and men on Yiojima. There can be no decisive battle on the mainland unless we learn in point of politics and administration from the example of Yiojima. War Minister Gen Sugiyama has said that our Armed Forces will form the core for the decisive battle of the mainland with the concentration of the strength of the hundred million people.

For the decisive battle on the mainland, it is a prerequisite that the determination as shown by our Armed Forces will be revealed also in politics and administration. In particular we hope that politics will, as early as possible, be equipped with the essence of Decisive Mainland Battle Politics.

# CHUNGKING SUPPRESSES CHINA RED NEWSPAPERS

### Chiang Agents Make Two Attempts to Set Fire to Yenan Organ's Sales Store

Domei

SHANGHAI, March 10.—With the Chungking-Yenan negotiations having broken down despite frantic string-pulling by the United States behind the scene, prospects for a peaceful settlement between the two parties seems completely shattered. Furthermore, rivalry between the two factions has become intensified to such an extent as to include the suppression of sales of Communist newspapers in Chungking.

A dispatch from the New China News Agency, the Yenan regime's news organ, dated March 2 pointed out at the outset that the Intelligence Service of the Kuomintang in Chungking was constantly interfering with the activities of the New China News Agency, a Communist paper published in Chungking.

Citing an example, the dispatch reported that the sales store of the New China News Agency in Chungking was subjected to incendiarism twice by Intelligence Service agents of the Chungking Kuomintang on January 22. On both occasions, the dispatch said, the fire was brought under control through the quick action of the employes; however, part of the collection of books in the store had been burnt.

It can clearly be perceived that this dispatch is either a downright denouncement of Chungking or a clear indication that Chungking's oppressive activities against Yenan has taken on a serious turn.

## Social and General

Ambassador H. G. Stahmer was host at a luncheon party held at the German Embassy, on March 8 in honor of Mr. A. M. Sahay, Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. Mr. Hiroo Furuuchi, Chief of the European Section of the Foreign Office, was also among the guests.

## Obituary

Shiro Watanabe, president of the Nippon Coal Company, passed away suddenly at his Kojimachi residence at 1 a.m. on Saturday at the age of 64. He had served as president of the firm from April, 1940 up to the time of his death and besides being an authority in the coal industry was also one of the founders of the artificial oil industry in Japan.

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 1945

## The Independence of Annam

Annam has declared its independence from French rule. The King of Annam, repudiating the Treaty of 1884 by which France established a protectorate over his country, has now proclaimed that Annam will henceforth stand as a fully independent and sovereign nation. Thus has ended the alien domination forced upon this Asiatic nation by French military might and maintained for sixty years in disregard of the wishes of the people. And thus have the long suppressed aspirations of the Annamese people for the restoration of their freedom been at last attained.

The return of Annam to its former status as an independent nation is eminently an act of justice, for the circumstances under which that country fell under the control of France constitute a flagrant example of unprincipled Western imperialistic aggression against helpless Asiatic peoples. Intervening in the affairs of Annam from as early as 1787, French adventurers backed by military forces pushed into the country to usurp control. Using the flimsiest of pretexts, they forced the King of Annam to cede increasing rights, taking away eventually the territory of Cochin-China which was bodily annexed by France in 1862 and finally forcing Annam itself to become a protectorate of France in 1884. Since then the Kingdom of Annam has been a vassal of France pure and simple.

After gaining control over Annam and the rest of Indo-China, France has been conspicuously negligent of the welfare of the native populace. Exercising power when it suited their convenience, the French authorities have failed to fulfil their responsibilities when it was not to their immediate profit. The most outstanding example is afforded by the recent past when in disregard of the danger of imminent foreign invasion the French authorities not only failed to take adequate measures to ensure the defense of the country but actually tried to conspire with the approaching enemy.

Under the circumstances, it was only just and proper that Annam should throw off this foreign domination which shackled the country and assert itself for the advancement of its own true interests. The occasion provided by the recent action of the Japanese Forces in assuming responsibility for the military defense of this area proved to be the golden opportunity which the Kingdom of Annam has seized to regain control of its own destiny.

The announced intention of Annam to work with the other free countries of this region as an integral member of the Greater East Asiatic brotherhood of nations assures a future of self-respect and dignity. Japan, ever solicitous of the welfare of all kindred Asiatic nations, welcomes the entrance of Annam to this growing fellowship of independent states who are united in their determination of erect a great East Asiatic commonwealth free from pernicious foreign influence. Ever true to her policy of extending aid and cooperation to neighboring nations for the sake of mutual well-being and mutual glory, Japan in accordance with the principles of the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations will leave nothing undone to aid Annam in the defense of its territories and the construction of a permanent national life. Annam's independence is another of the many results of the policy of Japan to facilitate the liberation of all the oppressed peoples of Asia.

## America's True Colors

In her indiscriminate bombing of the most congested parts of Tokyo last Friday night and early Saturday morning and of Nagoya early Monday morning, America has flamboyantly displayed her true colors. True, it was not unexpected. America has revealed her barbaric character before in the terror bombings of civilian populations in Hamburg, Berlin, and other German cities; in her destruction of priceless cultural monuments in various parts of Europe; in her sinking of innumerable hospital ships; and in countless other acts of savagery beyond mention. But the raids on Tokyo and Nagoya within the last few days have demonstrated more spectacularly than ever the fiendish character of the American enemy.

For these recent raids have been the most unquestionable examples of calculated and deliberate terror bombing. Raining flaming incendiaries over a vast area of civilian dwellings, the raiders can make no excuse of having aimed at military or industrial installations. It was an indiscriminate and wholesale attack upon the innocent civilian population with the sole aim of creating sheer terror and nothing else. There could have been no question of military objectives in burning such extensive areas of the cities' residential and shopping districts. It was an attempt at mass murder of women and children who had no connection with war production or any activity directly connected with the war.

Expected as was the enemy action, well known as was American ruthlessness from previous demonstrations, these latest examples of wanton bloodthirstiness nevertheless cannot fail to arouse horror and hate at the diabolical depravity which they reveal. There can be no other result than to strengthen the conviction of every Japanese that there can be no slackening of the war effort until such an enemy is thoroughly punished, that there can be no thought of rest until such a menace to humanity and civilization is made utterly impotent. Undying hatred and a stiffened determination to win at all costs can be the only reaction of the Japanese people to this American barbarity.

The action of the Americans is all the more despicable because of the noisy pretensions which they constantly make about their humanity and idealism. They are the first to accuse others of atrocities, raising loud protests over claims of alleged Japanese mistreatment of American prisoners of war and of alleged Japanese destructiveness in the zones of hostility. But even the most extravagant of the false American charges against the Japanese pale into insignificance besides the actual acts of deliberate American terror against civilian populations. No one expects war to be anything but a brutal business, but it remains for the Americans to make it systematically and unnecessarily a wholesale horror for innocent civilians.

For their monstrous inhumanity, for their unpardonable crime against civilization and decency, the fiendish Americans will have to render account before the bar of history. For all time the Americans will have to bear the stigma of world condemnation and suffer from the curse heaped upon them by outraged humanity as the result of the wanton terror they are sowing today.

## A Year Ago Today

### March 14, 1944

Japanese Forces successfully repulsed three enemy B-25's that attacked Yaluit Island of the Marshall Group early in the morning and another three B-25's that raided Mille Island in the afternoon. No damage was suffered by the Japanese.

* * *

In a drive to smash the American air force in China, Japanese Army Air Units carried out a series of devastating raids on five enemy air bases, blasting military installations and destroying eight planes on the ground.

* * *

In what London dispatches described as the heaviest incendiary raid on London since the "Blitz" of September 6, 1940, strong Luftwaffe formations, launched an attack on the British capital which lasted from night till morning, it is reported from London.

## U.S. HITS BACK AT ENGLAND

### American Repercussion to Article in the London Economist

The London News Chronicle's Washington correspondent reports on January 5:

Generous extracts from Economist's article appeared in many newspapers here.

They apprised a good part of the reading public in this country of the fact that the British weekly was saying that lots of people in Britain had had just about enough of criticism of her war effort from across the Atlantic and were rapidly tiring of American moralizing which remained unsupported by a discernible disposition which helps to solve the practical problems of the hour.

The first Americans heard from were a number of Congressmen who exhibited many signs of outrage. Republican insolationists now intimate that things have happened just as they expected—no gratitude and only abuse from Britain. But not all of these who took this line were isolationists.

There was one self-designated Liberal who said that what happened was a fine reward for all American sacrifices. This member of Congress contended that the Economist's article was dictated by Britain's Cabinet. The columnist later improved on this conception by saying that what makes the explosion so serious is the fact that the Economist is one of the information organs which is politically and personally very close to Prime Minister Churchill.

In matters of this kind, the publication may be as close to Downing Street as the Pravda or Izvestia are to the Kremlin, it is said. But there were not many commentators who went to this length. There were more who uttered warnings that criticisms such as the Economist made were dangerous. They helped to divide the Allies and they were just what Germany and Japan wanted. "Issues should be argued within bounds of reason and good temper," said the Scripps-Howard, Washington Daily News. Editorials and columnists promptly conceded that the Economist had plenty of provocation. The New York Herald Tribune said that it was bad-tempered.

### Commitments Mentioned

The Baltimore Sun had a different and less easy explanation. It said that the British had heavy foreign commitments and obligations and every Englishman knows the necessity for active policy of security. America on the other hand, is new to the business of foreign commitments and of having a consistent security policy. "Our discussion of these matters has an impromptu quality because we don't yet have a clear foreign policy," the Baltimore Sun said, It continued: "We criticize the acts of others from a comfortable vantage point of those who have only begun to consider what acts they may have to take themselves. Perhaps as our commitments and obligations begin pressing on us, we shall learn to take a more charitable and a more realistic attitude toward the acts of others."

President Roosevelt said to the press that there were a lot of things that could not be said out loud now because it would do no good. Differences, he said were inevitable.

In recriminations against business, the Washington Post on January 2 in its leader entitled, "British Touchiness" said, "Some of the American reports to the Economist have been as intemperate and as quarrelsome as the original article. What interests us is the fact that there has been a British outburst against America and the demand that Britain should quit truckling to America. It is foolish to think as several Congressmen do that the journal is expressing Government opinion."

Comment is free in Britain and in the case of the Economist, there are specific safeguards of editorial integrity. The exaggerated touchiness displayed by the present editors must be attributed to the abnormality of the present conditions.

### Economist's Attitude Analyzed

That captiousness and warping among us should elicit the reminder of blood, toil and tears experienced in Britain which is in itself the testimony of war weariness. Fatigue seems to have undermined the reputation for balance which used to be characteristic of the Economist.

Another explanation of the Economist's belligerency and sensitivity which should be favored by practitioners of a new psychology, is its realization of Britain's weakened position as a military and financial power.

She will emerge from the war lacking wherewithals to balance her external accounts without assistance. Moreover, her export industries will be handicapped both by high labor costs and technological backwardness.

The editors of the Economist have long been painfully aware of these deficiencies and their bearing upon Britain's postwar trade policies. Hence, liberal commercial policies for which the Economist once stood now look unrealistic to it. That holds true likewise in the political field where the protection of the Empire lines of communication and of oil fields of the Middle East become a matter of self-preservation.

If collective security should fail, the British have no sort of "home-grown security" to fall back upon. Therefore, they are looking more and more to their military alliance with Russia for protection in case a global equilibrium materializes in the postwar days.

The Economist itself says that one should be reminded that you can easily create things you contemplate. The Washington News on January 4 describes the British comments as an outburst of bad temper not entirely without provocation. The newspaper says that beyond the mudslinging there are two definite British proposals. "One is the British demand that the President and Congress shall state the American Foreign Policy clearly. The other is that a British General shall take over complete command and General Eisenhower should be made Deputy Commander of the Allied Ground Forces on the Western Front. Britain has the right to prompt and clear answers to these proposals. In our judgment the answer to the first should be 'yes' and the reply to the second 'no'."

## STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

### U.S. Wants to Use Island as a Base for the Domination Of the Asiatic Mainland

By MASAMICHI ROYAMA, M.P.

I

Why is it that the Philippines has become the main theater of the Pacific operations?

These questions which must be uppermost in the minds of all people can only be understood in the light of the geographical position of the Philippines in the Pacific and in the light of its racial political problem.

In the first place, it must be noted that in the enemy's operations against the Japanese mainland, three conditions govern his strategy. (1) The enemy must first of all occupy an area of considerable size on which he can accumulate his war materials and military power. Particularly is it necessary for him to find a place where he can set up a number of air bases. (2) In order to weaken the fighting power of Japan which has been augmented by her construction activities in the Southern Regions, it is necessary for the enemy to seize an area from which he can cut off Japan's connections with the Southern Regions. (3) Furthermore, to strengthen his aid to the Chungking regime and at the same time convert China into a major base of operations against Japan, it is necessary for the enemy to seize the gate to the Chinese mainland—that is, seize a springboard from which he can jump to the Asiatic mainland.

It is obvious that there is no island in the Pacific which so well fulfills three conditions as the Philippine Islands. To be sure, the enemy has had a political motive for launching the Philippine operations but from the standpoint of military operations, the above-mentioned three conditions must have had a preponderant influence in the American choice of the Philippines as a scene for a decisive battle. Among the political motives, of course, may be mentioned General Douglas MacArthur's intention to make up for his loss of face by bringing his troops back to the Philippines. Another political motive may have been the desire on the part of President Franklin Roosevelt to present the American people with news of a big military event in order to bolster his chances for a fourth-term election. Moreover, for men like Admiral Nimitz who consider Japan and the Chinese mainland as important military objectives the Philippine operations could have been taken as a secondary but useful subsidiary operation.

### Inner Defense Line

It is perhaps for these reasons that the enemy chose the Philippines as the arena for the decisive battle, but, on the other hand, for the Japanese nation the Philippines also looms large in its strategy. That is because the arc which connects the Ogasawara Islands with Okinawa, Taiwan and the Philippines forms the inner line of defense which protects Japan and the Asiatic mainland. The importance of these island formations is illustrated in the old adage that "there can be no strategy without land formations." Of these islands, of course, Taiwan occupies foremost importance. It is for this reason that all efforts must be directed to prevent the enemy from seizing these regions. And in doing so, the Japanese Forces will no doubt be greatly aided by the existence of this string of inner defenses. It is because of this fact that the enemy has chosen, from the above-mentioned reasons, to strike at this defense line and it is also because of this fact that Japan is grimly determined to defend this line.

The next problem that must be analyzed in the connection is the geographical position of the Philippines in relation to the other islands in the Pacific. The following figures showing the distance separating the Philippines from other key bases in the Pacific will perhaps serve to bring out the strategic importance of the Philippines. The distance from the Philippines to the following regions is as follows: To Hongkong, 631 nautical miles; to Saigon, 906 nautical miles; to Amoy 675 nautical miles; to Sandakan 573 nautical miles; to Shanghai 1.162 nautical miles; to Shonan 1,370 nautical miles; to Nagasaki 1,306 nautical miles; and to Yokohama 1,757 nautical miles. That is, all the regions in the Greater East Asia Sphere would come within the radius of 1,600 nautical miles of the Philippines. Thus, it is no wonder that the people of the Philippines claimed that they occupied the central position in the Asiatic sphere, for, from the geographical standpoint, there can be no question that the Philippines occupies such a strategic position.

On the other hand, the distances from the Philippines to the key points in the United States and Australia are as follows: To Honolulu 4,767 nautical miles; to San Francisco 6,221 nautical miles; and to Melbourne, 4,538 nautical miles. That is, these points are about three times as far away from the Philippines as the various points in the Asiatic sphere are from the Philippines. Thus, in order that the United States might carry on her operations against Japan, it is necessary for her to attack the Philippines for none of the Marshall, Caroline and Mariana Islands in the Inner South Sea are large enough for the accumulation of large supplies. But in the light of the geographical position of the Philippines, it is clear that the Philippines' destiny lies as one of the links in the defenses of the Greater East Asia Sphere and not as a part of the possessions of the United States.

### Filipinos Realized Advantage

In fact, even before the time when the conception of the Greater East Asia Sphere and Asiatic unity had been born, there was a realization on the part of some Filipinos, even when they were under American domination, of the pivotal location of their country in the Pacific. Of course, this conception did not take the form of a political ideology; it was confined to the commercial sphere. That is, these Filipinos realized that they must utilize the pivotal position of the Philippines in turning it into a supply base of commodities for the Asiatic mainland and, on the other, of making their country play the role of an entrepot—the accumulation center of all commodities from the Southern Regions. This fact is mentioned in the book called "Philippine History" which was written by Conrad Benites.

Moreover, from the historical standpoint, it will be seen that the Western conquistadores—the Portuguese and Spaniards—who first came to the Pacific also realized the important geographical position of the Philippines in relation to the Asiatic Continent. That is, the Philippines occupied a strategically important place as the accumulation center of spices from the Moluccas and silk from the Asiatic mainland. Moreover, in the history of China's relation with the Southern Regions, the Philippines occupied a singularly important place in China's trade with Borneo, Java and the other regions in the Southern Pacific because of the trade winds.

To the nations of Europe and the United States, the position of the Philippines assumed geopolitical importance as a base for the domination of the Asiatic mainland. This is revealed in Spain's Indias Orientales which was to be projected to the Mariana Islands, Taiwan and as far as the Japanese mainland. On the other hand, the American motive toward the Philippines came from their desire to counteract Britain's occupation of Singapore and Hongkong in order to assert their own domination over the Asiatic Continent.

To be more specific, the Philippines is located within north latitude 4 degrees and 22 degrees, and is not far from the equator. Moreover, in view of the fact that her topography is irregular and as there is a mountain range running through the center, the climate in that country is subject to various changes. These facts have had important influence in the establishment of the industries in the Philippines.

### Little Research Made

However, it is significant to point out that, before the outbreak of the present war, very little research was carried on to examine the relationship of these topographical and climatic features of the country with the view to using these features in the establishment of Philippine industries. But this, of course, was inevitable in view of the fact that the Filipinos were not independent under the rule of the United States. And it is also a matter of record that the American geologists and geographers did not care to instigate the Filipinos to take much interest in this subject. During my stay in the Philippines, I pointed out to the Filipino specialists of geography to take up their study along the points I have indicated above and they seemed to be immensely pleased with the suggestions which I made. Now that the Philippines has had a taste of independence, it is very likely that very independent studies will be carried out with a view to exploring all the potentialities endowed on their country by Nature.

Now, let us examine the area of the Philippines as this question was undoubtedly a deciding factor in the American choice of this country as the base of operations against Japan. But, before doing so, it is perhaps necessary to study the structural formation of this archipelago that is composed of large and small islands. This archipelago has been named the Philippine Islands by the United States, primarily from the fact that she did not desire to give any name which might connote the recognition of the racial elements of the country.

The Philippine archipelago is composed of about 7,000-odd islands, large and small, but the number of habitable islands totals about 400. The Luzon, Mindanao and Visaya Islands account for about 90 per cent of the total area of the archipelago.

### Has Vast Territory

The total area of the Philippines is 115,600 square miles; its length from north to south is 1,156 miles, its width from east to west, 688 miles. In comparison with the other islands of the Pacific and elsewhere, the Philippines is about 18 times the size of the Hawaiian Islands, 4 per cent smaller than the square mileage of the Italian Peninsula, 6 per cent smaller than the British mainland and 23 per cent smaller than Japan Proper—that is, it is about equal to the Japanese mainland and Hokkaido minus Kyushu. But it is larger than Belgium, Holland, Portugal and Switzerland. The approximate size of the various islands in the Philippines is shown in the following data: Luzon 40,000 square miles; Mindanao 36,000 square miles; Samar 5,000 square miles; Negros 4,900 square miles; Palawan 4,500 square miles; Panay 4,400 square miles; Mindoro 3,700 square miles; Leyte 2,700 square miles; Cebu 1,700 square miles; Bohol 1,400 square miles; and Masupana 1,200 square miles. (The above islands exclusive of Luzon and Mindanao form the Visaya group.)

One of the big problems of politico-geographical administration of the islands comes from the structural formation of these islands. The dispersion and the existence of a number of islands have not only their strong points but also their weak points. In the past, the weak points outweighed the strong points. That is, the numerous islands and the mountain ranges and the difficulty of communications provided one of the biggest difficulties in the formation of a unified racial State. In the absence of efforts to surmount these natural difficulties it was impossible to achieve unification.

### Achievement Is Possible

From the geopolitical standpoint, the question of forming a unified State out of an archipelago is the most important task of the present. In other words, the weak point of the past must be turned into strong points. Such an achievement is by no means impossible. This is not a problem for the Filipino people alone but also for all the peoples of this Continent. Moreover, in view of the fact that it is not an accident that the Philippines became the main scene of the decisive battle, much importance must be given to its strategic location in the inner defense line which runs from the Japanese mainland to the Southern Regions. The importance of the Philippine Islands is, moreover, enhanced by the fact that it is an archipelago.

From the economic, commercial and communications standpoints, the Philippines also occupies a central position. It is not an exaggeration to state that without the Philippines it is impossible to maintain the link with the Southern Regions. Moreover, the Philippines is also important as a link with the mainland of Asia, and in view of this fact the importance of this archipelago is bound to increase in the future. In addition, it will be recognized that the structural formation of the Philippines—the fact that it is an archipelago—will assume even greater significance with the development of the war and also with the development of the means of communication and transportation in the final establishment of a unified administration and a political system for the Philippines.

In considering the defense of the Philippines, it is necessary to remember its relationship with the Central Pacific and with the islands in Japan's Inner Sea such as Palau and the Carolines. It is not an accident that Spain, in extending her power to the Philippines, occupied these islands in the Pacific. Furthermore, in view of the fact that the Philippines, racially and from other ethnological standpoints, is closely related with the Carolines and Molucca Islands, it is a fallacy to think of the Philippines independently of the various surrounding islands in Asia's future defense and economic plans.

(To Be Concluded)

## THE PERMANENCE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

### Fact That World Has Not Been Able to Do Away With War Is No Reason Why Law Should Be Condemned

By RYOICHI TAOKA
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The efforts by scholars to correct the mistakes in recent public opinion which doubts the value of international law should be respected but prudence and caution must be observed in their discussions. It is necessary to probe into the causes of such public opinion and reflect upon whether there had been mistakes also on the side of international jurists in their methods of studying and handling international law and, if so, whether these mistakes constitute the cause of the misunderstanding. The doubts harbored by the public cannot be cleared away by mere superficial understanding of the view of the public and by laughing at it without serious reflection.

The public believes that international law becomes utterly worthless once war begins. There are some scholars who give the following theory in reply to this public opinion. "International law is divided into two kinds i.e., international law in peacetime and international law in wartime. It is wartime international law whose validity is questioned. Peacetime international law is more important than wartime international law. Therefore, it is not correct to say that international law becomes worthless when war breaks out. The methods of settling international conflicts peacefully, in other words, the problems concerned with arbitration and other peaceful methods of solution are of primary importance in international law. These problems are actually regarded with importance by various Powers in their postwar plans. These problems will make an extraordinary development after the war. Studies into international law must be focused on this point."

Besides removing common misunderstandings regarding the value of international law, these scholars attempt also to uphold their opinion through this theory that the aim of international law is to end war and that studies into peaceful methods for the settlement of disputes are, therefore, the basic problem of international law.. Will this theory, however, succeed in correcting the misunderstanding entertained by the public in regard to international law?

### Public's Skepticism

First of all, attention should be directed to the fact that the doubt which the public harbors in regard to relations between war and international law is not directed solely at the question of the validity of wartime international law. The public thinks along the following line in this respect: "In peacetime, nations respect each other's territorial integrity, the lives and property of other people and have numerous other obligations under international law. However, once war breaks out, the territory of the other nation is invaded, its people slaughtered and maimed and their property destroyed. This phenomenon is, moreover, regarded as a natural one. War is started by the unilateral will of a nation. Therefore, are not the numerous rights and obligations founded upon international law extinguished by the unilateral will of a nation? Are these obligations to be trampled down through the unilateral will of one nation? It is a contradiction to call them rights or obligations. International law is, after all, a mere euphemism."

This is at the botton of the public skepticism toward international law. The validity of peacetime international law literally becomes a problem in this respect. It is useless to state that there is an international law for peacetime and another for wartime and that it is the latter which has no relations at all with the former which is frequently violated in wartime. The public knows that international law is classified into one for wartime and one for peacetime but it doubts the value of international law nevertheless.

Secondly, attention must be paid to the opinion of apologists for international law that the abolition of war is the basic problem of international law and that studies into methods of mediation and arbitration are of primary importance in international law.

Any one, who has read history knows that no treaty will be able to prevent war from breaking out. In view of the fact that human beings have built an organization called the State, maintain peace within this organization, prohibit the private use of military might, and have set up law courts and other peaceful methods to settle conflicts, simple-minded thinkers believe that it is not impossible to implant this system into international society and thus bar wars.

The main reason why human beings have built an organization called the State is that they knew by instinct that it was more advantageous for them to fight in bodies. It is because they know that internal conflicts weaken the strength of a country as a fighting body against the outside that they endeavor to maintain peace within this organization. Herein lies the important reason why the private use of military force inside the country is prohibited and that law courts are able to maintain their prestige. People hold back their fighting instincts as citizens of a country and bear many things in patience in order not to weaken the strength of their country as a fighting body against the outside. It is, however, an error to hope that similar results will be gained in an international society.

### Mediation and Arbitration

This does not mean that peaceful methods of settlement are entirely impractical in international society. To do away with arbitration and meditation as worthless things because war is inevitable is tantamount to discarding medicine as a worthless thing because death is the inevitable fate of mankind. Although medicine does always prevent death, it speeds up the cure of sickness which are not fatal and sometimes prove effective in delaying death. Arbitration and mediation similarly speed up the solution of conflicts which do not develop into war and sometimes prove effective in delaying wars. However, its effect stops there.

International law accepts the character of international society as it is, recognizes the inevitability of war and seeks the common denominator of an international society. Being sick and tired of the horrors of the first World War which lasted for four and a half years, the entire world temporarily thirsted for peace. The jurists in various nations declared that the aim of international law lay in eradicating war from the world. Their minds were thus fully occupied with arbitration and other problems concerning peaceful methods of settlement that they did not have any time to consider other matters. As a result of this one-sided emphasis, it was natural that the world should have been stunned when the second World War broke out. No wonder it thought that international law had failed in its test. This was due to the fact that the world had not learned that the real characteristics of international law were something different.

This is a point on which international jurists must reflect at present. In view of the fact that the current world war is more protracted and more bloody than the last war, it is possible that the world after the current world war will be loud in its search of a cure-all for war. There might appear some international jurists who will again attempt to sell an excellent remedy for annihilating war by utilizing this mental state of the world. However, should they do so, they will be sacrificing the future growth and prestige of international law.

Anzilloti, noted President of the Permanent Court of International Justice who has devoted his life for the development of international court has issued the following warning against the League of Nations and other peaceful organizations in his book (Corso di dritto Internazionale) which was published in 1928 when peace fever was most rampant: "These plans are those which mankind had believed in from the earliest time as means to prevent war. The fact that the causes of war lie in deeper places is being overlooked." Moore who has been a judge of the World Court in his book entitled "International Law and Some Current Illusions" ridicules persons who go around selling excellent remedies for eradicating war by quoting the story by the British writer, Addison, of an imposter who went about selling pills for warding off earthquakes.

These scholars have been enthusiastic in developing courts of arbitration and at the same time have widely studied the entire scope of international law and are acquainted with the long history of international life. They have not, therefore, lost sight of the limitations of the power of the peaceful methods for the settlement of disputes.

## A Quick Service

The superintendent of a certain railway was very officious in insisting that station masters send word immediately of all accidents in their neighborhood.

One day, he received a wire: "Man fell from platform in front of moving train. Will wire details later."

Five minutes ticked by, then came another telegram: "Everything O.K. Nobody hurt. Engine was going backwards."